



## **Superintendent Monthly Report**

**General Updates: February 8, 2022**

### **Tri-Board Meeting**

Three Board members and I attended the Tri-Board meeting on Thursday, January 28. The three Boards had a lengthy conversation regarding establishment of a Non-Lapsing Account. There seems to be a general interest in learning more about the concept. The Board of Finance is interested in looking at sample agreements from surrounding towns. There are mutual benefits of establishing an account for the Town and the District, which includes establishing a financial safety net for unexpected expenses. It should be noted that any expenditure from a non-lapsing account does not raise the Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR) on the Board of Education budget. This account may also help with the completion of small capital improvement projects. These conversations will likely continue over the next few months.

### **Executive Orders**

The Governor's emergency powers and executive orders are set to expire on February 15, 2022. The Governor has requested from the legislature that 11 executive orders move forward. The requirement for school staff that are not vaccinated to participate in a weekly COVID testing program is not one of the eleven executive orders to move forward. At this point it is unclear if the new legislative session will result in extending the Governor's emergency powers or if legislators will manage the emergency orders themselves. It is expected that a decision will be made by February 11. In the event the mask mandate expires, a special board meeting will be necessary to amend our policy.

### **CDC and DPH Updated Guidelines**

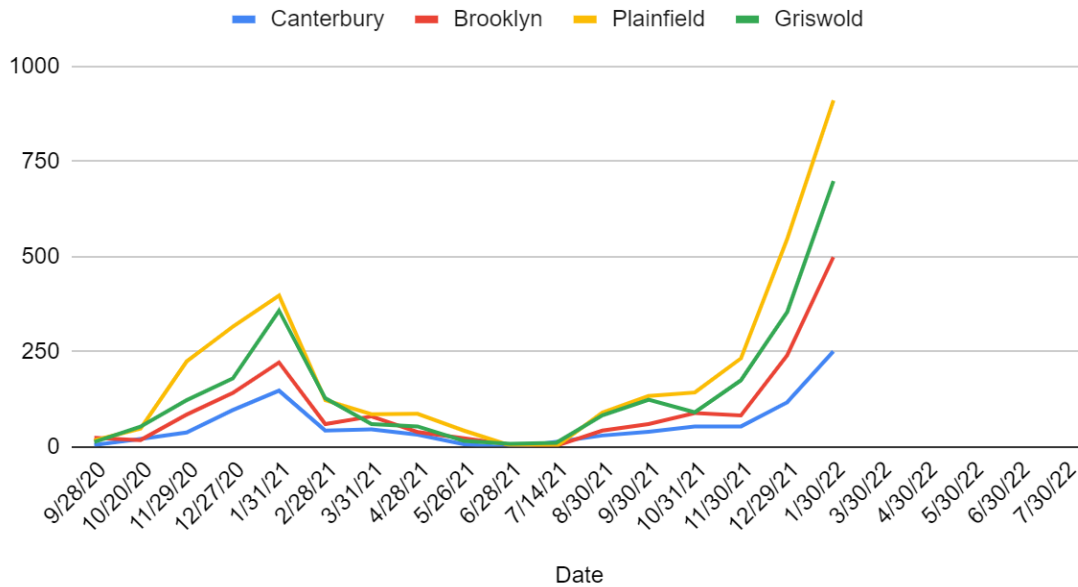
New DPH guidelines have been shared with staff and our community, which has also been posted on our website, <https://www.canterburypublicschools.org/>. The guidance eliminates the need for contact tracing and reduces the time for quarantining if someone contracts COVID-19. Due to the surge of cases in January the district maintained a ten day quarantine period for students. On January 25 we reduced the quarantine period to five days for students and staff, as cases have started to decline.

The district still has an ample supply of COVID test kits and we have been offering them to any family that calls with concerns of family members exhibiting COVID like symptoms.

## COVID Rates

Each month I have been updating the Board on estimated monthly COVID cases in our region since August 2020. As you can see the current rates are significantly higher this January as compared to last January. On a positive note, when looking at weekly totals we can see a dramatic drop in cases since January 13, 2022. If the current trend mirrors last year, we should continue to see a decline in cases.

### Canterbury, Brooklyn, Plainfield and Griswold - Monthly Rates



### Estimated Weekly COVID Cases in Canterbury

